

To Whom It May Concern,

I first became interested in satellite radio (and, specifically, XM's programming lineup) last year, when I discovered my favorite broadcast radio station had abruptly changed without prior notice from a format I enjoyed (contemporary jazz) to one very much like everything else on that end of the dial (bland, ordinary, and unimaginative "Top 40" with tons of commercials every hour). This ordinarily wouldn't have bothered me much, except that I found out that *no other station* would be changing its format to replace it, and it was very difficult to find anything anywhere that would match the format I preferred.

Until, that is, I discovered XM satellite radio. With its unique service, I not only had 24 hour, seven days a week, cross-country access to my favorite music format, but also no annoying commercials selling things or services I absolutely don't want or ever will need. I have also found on XM other music formats I enjoy, as well as a wealth of other audio entertainments that have been completely marginalized or displaced off the air entirely.

It is very unfortunate that so many of these formats have been abandoned by corporate-owned stations that seek only to improve their bottom dollars by serving the lowest common denominator. Worse yet, being owned by such large, impersonal corporations they absolutely do not serve local interests, many of them being merely prerecorded elsewhere with only token interest in the community. It is therefore imperative that a service like XM steps in where it can provide at least local traffic and weather as a viable alternative when one wants the information right away instead of having to wade through unnecessary commercials or idle commentary. The service is also important when one wants to know the local conditions in another part of the country, but isn't able to access it through other media.

I strongly urge the FCC and the federal government to reject petition 04-160. This latest attempt by the corporations currently driving traditional broadcasting to limit access shows an appalling lack of vision and true understanding of the interests and needs of the listening citizens of this country.

Thank you for your attention.